

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 /144 W
----- 028198

R 101715 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9973

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12891

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA

REF: A. STATE 087854; B. PARIS 12579

1. DRAWING ON PARA 3 REF A, EMBOFF INFORMED QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR
AFRICAN AFFAIRS COMBAL MAY 10 OF APPROACHES WHICH
USG PROPOSING TO MAKE IN SELECTED AFRICAN CAPITALS.
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2. COMBAL LATER INFORMED EMBOFF THAT FOLLOWING RECEIPT THIS INFORMATION QUESTION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH DIRECTOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS AND SECRETARY GENERAL DE COURCELLES AND DECISION REACHED TO INFORM FRENCH AMBASSADORS IN POSTS CONCERNED OF US DECISION. FRENCH AMBASSADORS, HOWEVER, NOT BEING INSTRUCTED TO MAKE PARALLEL APPROACHES AND FOR TIME BEING POSITION REMAINS AS REPORTED REF B. FRENCH DO NOT INTEND TO INTERVENE PRIOR TO OAU SUMMIT, BUT PREFER TO AWAIT OUTCOME AND THEN CONSIDER WHAT ACTION MIGHT BE TAKEN IN NEW YORK.

3. COMBAL STRESSED THAT ON SUBSTANCE THERE WAS LITTLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND FRENCH VIEWS, BUT THAT FOR TIME BEING THERE WAS DIFFERENCE ON TACTICS. COMBAL SAID GOF CONTINUED TO FEEL THAT THERE WAS NO NEED TO TAKE MATTER UP "INTENSIVELY" IN CAPITALS. NONETHELESS GOF RETAINS OPEN MIND AND WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE APPROACHES.

4. COMMENT: FRENCH RELUCTANCE TO ENGAGE THEMSELVES ON ISSUE, DESPITE FACT THEY SHARE OUR VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO CONTINUE SYG'S MANDATE FOR NAMIBIA, MAY REFLECT ASSESSMENT THAT MANDATE CANNOT BE PROLONGED. HENCE THEY MAY BE RELUCTANT TO WEIGH IN ON WHAT THEY CONCLUDE IS LOST CAUSE. THEIR AMBASSADORS IN AFRICAN CAPITALS WILL PRESUMABLY STAY IN TOUCH WITH OURS, AND IF THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT AFRICANS ARE MORE FLEXIBLE THAN ORIGINALLY SEEMED LIKELY, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT FRENCH WILL DECIDE TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO ENCOURAGE MORE FORTHCOMING AFRICAN POSITION.
IRWIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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ADDIS ABABA
AF
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